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STATE OF CONNECTICUT

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DATE: February 6, 2007

TO: Council Members

FROM: S. Derek Phelps, Executive Director

RE: **DOCKET NO. 328** - Optasite Towers LLC and Omnipoint Communications, Inc. application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 1027 Middle Turnpike East, Manchester, Connecticut.

I. Introduction

The application is from Optasite Towers LLC and Omnipoint Communications, Inc. for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility and associated equipment in the Town of Manchester, Connecticut.

Optasite would erect a 130-foot steel monopole within a 50-foot by 80-foot fenced in compound on a 9 acre parcel owned by Urban Realty Company.

II. Technical

The application includes relevant maps, descriptions of the proposed prime and alternate site, costs, a description of the environmental effects of the proposed construction, and health and safety information. The application meets statutory technical requirements for processing the application. Council staff believes additional information can be obtained through pre-hearing interrogatories. This project would not require an outside consultant.

III. Administrative Review

The applicant has stated that all service and filing requirements pursuant to General Statutes § 16-50i (b) have been fulfilled. The applicant stated that notice to the general public was published in The Hartford Courant and The Journal Inquirer.

IV. Procedural

The Council must schedule a hearing for the proceeding between 30 and 150 days after receipt of an application. The Council must also appoint a custodian of the docket and designate a place for the deposition of the transcript. Staff recommends designating Lisa Fontaine as custodian of the docket, holding the public hearing in the Town of Manchester on Thursday, April 12, 2007, and depositing the transcript in the Manchester and Bolton Town Halls.

V. Proposed Schedule

Application received	01/18/07
Completeness review	02/06/07
Subcommittee meeting	02/06/07
Pre-hearing Questions	
• Set-One Filed	02/09/07
• Set-One responses due	02/27/07
• Set-Two Filed	03/02/07
• Set-Two responses due	03/20/07
Pre-hearing conference (10:00 a.m.)	03/14/07
Pre-filed testimony due	04/05/07
Deadline to request Party/Intervenor status	04/05/07
Field review (2:00 p.m.)	04/12/07
Hearing (3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.)	04/12/07
Close of Record	05/14/07
Draft Findings of Fact	05/17/07
Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion & Decision & Order	06/07/07
Deadline for Decision	07/17/07
180-day extension date	01/13/08

David Martin
Siting Analyst